

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Traian Băsescu, President of Romania**

**- OSCE Summit -**  
*Astana, 1-2 December 2010*

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Mr. Secretary General,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all I would like to thank the President and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan – organizers and hosts of the Seventh OSCE Summit – for their determination and skill in exercising their prerogatives during the mandate of the current OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office. From our viewpoint, the OSCE Summit in Astana is a momentous event as it assembles Heads of State and Government from the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asian regions yet again, a whole decade after the last summit, and it does so for the first time in a Central Asian country. Concurrently, this is a Summit of rebuilding trust and confidence.

Eleven years ago, in Istanbul, we decided to substantiate our dialogue and joint action. In the Charter for European Security we laid down our resolute adherence to the OSCE acquis, we concurred with the imperative to find political negotiated solutions to existing conflicts and to prevent new crises, set firm our readiness to enhance the OSCE's operational capabilities and to build a community of democracy, freedom and prosperity as part of our indivisible security.

Unfortunately, we have failed to fulfill the ambitious vision of a common security space stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok. What we are witnessing today is a selective or incomplete implementation of commitments undertaken, a standstill in the resolution of the frozen conflicts and an erosion of conventional arms control regime. The tragic events of 2008 in Georgia were an extreme wake up call reminding us of these failures greatly impacting on the very authority and relevance of the OSCE.

We share the view of those who believe that what we lack for an improved co-operation is neither framework nor toolbox. What we really need is the political will to address and settle our problems constructively, matching our common interests while ensuring our adherence to the OSCE's values and principles laying at the core of its acquis.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Throughout its evolution, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe has helped overcome differences and channel common approaches. The Corfu Process has given new momentum to the debates on European security and triggered a wide process of reflection, assessment and strategic planning serving the overall purpose of restoring trust and confidence.

The most immediate consequence of the Corfu Process is our presence here today in Astana. Through efforts committing both political will and responsibility, together we can start rebuilding a security community deeply anchored in our shared values and principles, while looking forward towards a future where the threat or the use of force could no longer be seen as options in settling disputes. This should be the strategic goal of the OSCE - a fully operational organization, able to employ dialogue and the spirit of co-operation to solve the protracted conflicts, prevent new

tensions and crises, provide appropriate responses to new generations of transnational threats and strengthen the respect for democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The restoration of the OSCE relevance requires, as a matter of priority, re-crediting the concept of comprehensive security with the right value to be anchored in the respect and promotion of human rights, fundamental freedoms, democratic principles and the rule of law. The commitments on the Human Dimension are among our most solid achievements. They should be renewed and strengthened all the more so as we are still facing failures deriving from a lack in their implementation and certain caution in taking over new responsibilities.

Another element central to our security agenda is relating to the need for a new, comprehensive and cross-dimensional approach to conflicts, ranging from early warning to conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management, and post-conflict rehabilitation. Romania believes that this undertaking should benefit equally political will on behalf of the OSCE participating States as well as appropriate OSCE mechanisms and procedures enabling the Organization to undertake proactive, effective and flexible responses to various situations with a potential of conflict.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

If we want the OSCE to be successful and effective in the whole conflict cycle, we must first of all get tangible results in settling the situation in the separatist regions of Transnistria, Abkhazia, South Ossetia and Nagorno-Karabakh, negatively impacting on the whole security climate in the OSCE area. Tolerance to solutions imposed by force should by no means be acceptable.

The resolution of the Transnistrian conflict represents a political priority for Romania. We support the unconditional resumption of the formal negotiations in the “5+2” format aiming at a lasting solution that would fully respect the norms and principles of international law, the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova.

We continue to have full confidence in the OSCE’s long-proven capacity to rightly assess difficulties and stalemates, to help surpass rigid and unilateral approaches and coin consensus-based solutions. Open dialogue that makes unthinkable the use of force should be the only method acceptable in carving our way forward.

I would like to point out another issue of utmost interest for our political and military security, namely the need to reinforce the viability of arms control regimes and enhance confidence and security-building measures. We stand firm that the OSCE space remains the appropriate framework for conventional arms control toolbox. Confidence- and security-building measures have helped establish a new model of co-operation and interaction among participating States and a climate of openness and transparency.

The documents developed within the OSCE alongside with the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces and the Treaty on Open Skies are the basis of European security and form a solid and unified acquis of principles, commitments and decisions. Their full implementation is the path to restoring trust and consolidating efforts to enhance European security. Nevertheless, we are still concerned about the erosion of the CFE regime. Future developments in this area should rest on the key assumptions of the CFE Treaty and Adapted CFE Treaty, on our existing political and legal commitments, such as the host nation consent for stationing foreign troops on its territory.

Considering the complexity of new challenges to the security in the OSCE region and its adjacent areas, Romania stands for strengthening the role of the OSCE in this field, particularly by strengthening the capacities of its executive structures and adapting its strategies to the specifics of the security climate.

Furthermore, we must manage security risks outside the OSCE space. Therefore, we support an effective contribution of our Organization to fighting transnational illegal trafficking, as well as to enhancing democracy and security in Afghanistan.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

We have discussed these days a new mandate that would strengthen the future OSCE capabilities and that represents the shared will of the 56 participating States to rebuild trust and tackle security challenges we are faced with. I am confident that its consistent implementation by each and every participating State will reaffirm the OSCE as player of primary importance in the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asian security equation.

Thank you for your attention!

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